

# 2003 Pre-holiday Price Verification Survey

Following are the results of a pre-holiday price scanning accuracy survey that found four out of every 100 items they tested rang up incorrectly -- sometimes in favor of businesses, but at other times consumers were undercharged. The survey was conducted jointly by weights and measures officials from the state of Washington, city of Seattle and city of Spokane during the first two weeks of November. Inspectors visited stores where consumers typically shop for holiday gifts.

Some of the highlights of the study are:

- 1) 15 percent of the 93 stores checked failed
  - City of Spokane failure rates were 5 percent of the 19 stores inspected
  - City of Seattle failure rates were 9.6 percent of the 31 stores inspected
  - State of Washington failure rates were 23 percent of the 44 stores inspected
- 2) 7,765 items were checked and 330 or 4.2% rang up as errors
  - 1% were overcharges ranging from 30 cents to \$50. The average overcharge was \$3.92
  - 3% were sold below the posted price. The average undercharge was \$12.78
- 3) 23.6% of the 93 stores inspected had no overcharges or undercharges

Jurisdiction Key:

- 1 = State
- 2 = City of Seattle
- 3 = City of Spokane

BUSINESS INFORMATION				RESULTS												
Store Name	Street Address	City	Jurisdiction	#Items sampled	#Over charges	Total\$ Over Charges	Avg\$ Over Charges	%Over Charges	#Under Charges	Total\$ Under Charges	Avg\$ Under Charges	%Under Charges	Total# Errors	Total% Error	Pass	Fail
Big Lots #1932	1524 Birchwood Ave	Bellingham	1	100	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	0	0.0%	1	0
Walmart	4420 Meridian St	Bellingham	1	100	1	\$5.16	\$5.16	1%	1	\$5.01	\$5.01	1%	2	2.0%	1	0
Kmart	1001 Sunset Dr	Bellingham	1	100	1	\$1.00	\$1.00	1%	5	\$22.88	\$4.58	5%	6	6.0%	1	0
Lowe's	5600 St Hwy 303 NE	Bremerton	1	100	1	\$5.00	\$5.00	1%	1	\$5.00	\$5.00	1%	2	2.0%	1	0
Walgreen's	6432 St Hwy 303 NE	Bremerton	1	50	1	\$1.12	\$1.12	2%	1	\$6.00	\$6.00	2%	2	4.0%	1	0
Target	199 Cascade Mall Dr	Burlington	1	100	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	1	0.99	\$0.99	1%	1	1.0%	1	0
Party City	147 Cascade Mall Dr	Burlington	1	100	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	2	\$11.30	\$5.65	2%	2	2.0%	1	0
Mervyn's	1402 SE Everett Mall Way	Everett	1	100	2	\$8.00	\$4.00	2%	4	\$27.78	\$6.95	4%	6	6.0%	1	0
Pep Boys	10113 Evergreen Way	Everett	1	25	4	\$18.00	\$4.50	16%	2	\$8.00	\$4.00	8%	6	24.0%	0	1
The Bon Marche	400 Columbia Center Blvd	Kennewick	1	100	3	\$22.41	\$7.47	3%	7	\$30.00	\$4.29	7%	10	10.0%	0	1
Walmart	2720 S Quillan St	Kennewick	1	100	2	\$3.75	\$1.88	2%	3	\$12.56	\$4.19	3%	5	5.0%	1	0
Shopko	887 N Columbia Center Blvd	Kennewick	1	100	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	4	\$24.89	\$6.22	4%	4	4.0%	1	0
Nordstrom	3200 184th St SW	Lynnwood	1	100	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	0	0.0%	1	0
Linens & Things	19401 Alderwood Mall	Lynnwood	1	100	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	0	0.0%	1	0

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Cost Plus	18205 Alderwood Mall	Lynnwood	1	100	2	\$0.80	\$0.40	2%	3	\$6.50	\$2.17	3%	5	5.0%	1	0
Toys R Us	1000 Cooper Pt Rd	Olympia	1	100	3	\$6.00	\$2.00	3%	4	\$48.04	\$12.01	4%	7	7.0%	0	1
Petsmart	120 31st Ave	Puyallup	1	50	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	0	0.0%	1	0
GI Joe's	120 31st	Puyallup	1	100	4	\$13.50	\$3.38	4%	4	\$34.74	\$8.69	4%	8	8.0%	0	1
Mervyn's	3700 S Meridian	Puyallup	1	100	1	\$2.00	\$2.00	1%	2	\$8.01	\$4.01	2%	3	3.0%	1	0
Michael's Store	46215 Meridian St #A905	Puyallup	1	100	1	\$3.24	\$3.24	1%	1	\$3.00	\$3.00	1%	2	2.0%	1	0
Target	3310 Meridian	Puyallup	1	100	2	\$3.20	\$1.60	2%	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	2	2.0%	1	0
Walmart	743 Rainier Ave S	Renton	1	100	3	\$0.24	\$0.08	3%	2	\$29.67	\$14.84	2%	4	4.0%	0	1
Fred Meyer	365 Renton Center Way	Renton	1	100	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	6	\$31.70	\$5.28	6%	6	6.0%	1	0
Circuit City Stores	1430 Tapteal Dr	Richland	1	100	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	3	\$26.00	\$8.67	3%	3	3.0%	1	0
JC Penney #696-5	1200 South Center	Seattle	1	100	2	\$60.00	\$30.00	2%	4	\$39.01	\$9.75	4%	6	6.0%	1	0
Cost Plus	17680 South Center	Seattle	1	100	3	\$11.50	\$3.83	3%	2	\$8.51	\$4.26	2%	5	5.0%	0	1
Best Buy	7551 Ridgetop Blvd NW	Silverdale	1	100	3	\$5.00	\$1.67	3%	8	\$84.00	\$10.50	8%	11	11.0%	0	1
REI	240 Andover Park W	Tukwila	1	100	1	\$0.50	\$0.50	1%	5	\$149.39	\$29.88	5%	6	6.0%	1	0
Sears	400 SouthCenter Mall	Tukwila	1	100	2	\$7.00	\$3.50	2%	1	\$1.00	\$1.00	1%	3	3.0%	1	0
Guitar Center Inc	230 Andover Park W	Tukwila	1	100	2	\$16.00	\$8.00	2%	8	\$1,281.49	\$160.19	8%	10	10.0%	1	0
Old Navy Clothing	17470 SouthCenter Pkwy	Tukwila	1	100	1	\$5.01	\$5.01	1%	17	\$96.61	\$5.68	17%	18	18.0%	1	0
Bed Bath & Beyond	400 Strander Blvd	Tukwila	1	100	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	5	\$54.00	\$10.80	5%	5	5.0%	1	0
Home Depot	1101 Kingswood Dr SW	Tumwater	1	100	3	\$9.28	\$3.09	3%	3	\$19.45	\$6.48	3%	6	6.0%	0	1
Gottschalks	2515 Main St	Union Gap	1	100	3	\$13.69	\$4.56	3%	11	\$143.32	\$13.03	11%	14	14.0%	0	1
Hi School Pharmacy	13009 NE Hwy 99	Vancouver	1	100	1	\$2.50	\$2.50	1%	1	\$0.14	\$0.14	1%	2	2.0%	1	0
Meier & Frank	8206 NE Vancouver Mall Dr	Vancouver	1	100	2	\$5.99	\$3.00	2%	3	\$11.00	\$3.67	3%	5	5.0%	1	0
Fred Meyer	1206 N 40th Ave	Yakima	1	100	3	\$10.68	\$3.56	3%	5	\$13.24	\$2.65	5%	8	8.0%	0	1
Bi Mart #628	1207 N 40th Ave	Yakima	1	100	2	\$0.83	\$0.42	2%	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	3	3.0%	1	0
Office Max	128 N Fair Ave	Yakima	1	100	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	2	\$8.19	\$4.10	2%	2	2.0%	1	0
Target	301 Strander Blvd	Tukwila	1	100	2	\$5.44	\$2.72	2%	6	\$24.52	\$4.09	6%	8	8.0%	1	0
Fred Meyer	1225 W Bakerview	Bellingham	1	100	1	\$0.35	\$0.35	1%	3	\$8.05	\$2.68	3%	4	4.0%	1	0
Famous Foot Wear	424 Fashion Way	Burlington	1	100	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	5	\$46.99	\$9.40	5%	5	5.0%	1	0
Gap Outlet	416 Fashion Way	Burlington	1	100	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	7	\$51.02	\$7.29	7%	7	7.0%	1	0
Babies R Us	743 Northgate Mall	Seattle	1	110	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	2	\$13.00	\$6.50	2%	2	1.8%	1	0
Bath & BodyWorks	401 NE Northgate Way	Seattle	2	25	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	0	0.0%	1	0
Ann Taylor Loft	555 Northgate Mall	Seattle	2	25	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	0	0.0%	1	0

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Brookstone	550 Northgate Mall	Seattle	2	25	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	0	0.0%	1	0
Disney Store	546 Northgate Mall	Seattle	2	25	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	0	0.0%	1	0
The Gap	6401 12th Ave NE	Seattle	2	50	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	0	0.0%	1	0
Bartell Drugs	555 Northgate Mall	Seattle	2	100	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	0	0.0%	1	0
The Body Shop	538 Northgate Mall	Seattle	2	25	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	0	0.0%	1	0
B Dalton Books	555 Northgate Mall	Seattle	2	50	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	0	0.0%	1	0
Victoria's Secret	85001 5th Ave NW	Seattle	2	25	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	0	0.0%	1	0
Walgreen's	17500 Southcenter Pkwy	Seattle	2	100	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	0	0.0%	1	0
Gottschalk's	900 Northgate Mall	Seattle	2	100	2	\$18.02	\$9.01	2%	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	2	2.0%	1	0
Target	2800 SW Barton	Seattle	2	100	1	\$2.00	\$2.00	1%	5	\$11.66	\$2.33	5%	6	6.0%	1	0
Big 5 Sporting Goods	2500 SW Barton	Seattle	2	50	1	\$0.10	\$0.10	2%	4	\$37.08	\$9.27	8%	5	10.0%	1	0
Petco	4724 California Ave SW	Seattle	2	100	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	1	\$1.22	\$1.22	1%	1	1.0%	1	0
Eddie Bauer	710 Northgate Mall	Seattle	2	50	1	\$10.00	\$10.00	2%	7	\$53.03	\$7.58	14%	8	16.0%	1	0
Staples	13240 Aurora Ave N	Seattle	2	100	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	3	\$11.01	\$3.67	3%	3	3.0%	1	0
Home Depot	2701 Utah Ave S	Seattle	2	100	1	\$3.00	\$3.00	1%	3	\$51.98	\$17.33	3%	4	4.0%	1	0
JC Penney	475 Northgate Way	Seattle	2	100	3	\$44.39	\$14.80	3%	3	\$11.03	\$3.68	3%	6	6.0%	0	1
Fred Meyer	417 Broadway E	Seattle	2	100	2	\$0.65	\$0.33	2%	3	\$5.62	\$1.87	3%	5	5.0%	1	0
Nordstrom	715 Northgate Mall	Seattle	2	100	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	1	\$20.00	\$20.00	1%	1	1.0%	1	0
Sam's Club	13550 Aurora Ave N	Seattle	2	100	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	2	\$4.14	\$2.07	2%	2	2.0%	1	0
Barnes and Noble	2700 Village	Seattle	2	100	2	\$1.55	\$0.78	2%	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	2	2.0%	1	0
Bartell Drugs	4700 University Village PI NE	Seattle	2	100	1	\$2.50	\$2.50	1%	2	\$4.00	\$2.00	2%	3	3.0%	1	0
Tower Records	500 Mercer St	Seattle	2	50	1	\$5.00	\$5.00	2%	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	1	2.0%	1	0
Radio Shack	3820 Rainer Ave S	Seattle	2	50	4	\$13.00	\$3.25	8%	3	\$33.02	\$11.01	6%	7	14.0%	0	1
Radio Shack	2032 NW Marset	Seattle	2	50	2	\$3.00	\$1.50	4%	8	\$109.10	\$13.64	16%	10	20.0%	0	1
Toys R Us	301 NE Northgate Way	Seattle	2	100	1	\$1.00	\$1.00	1%	1	\$1.00	\$1.00	1%	2	2.0%	1	0
Swim In	518 Northgate Mall	Seattle	2	25	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	0	0.0%	1	0
Office Max	1135 Leary Way	Seattle	2	100	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	1	\$1.69	\$1.69	1%	1	1.0%	1	0
That Kitchen Shop	507 Northgate Mall	Seattle	2	25	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	1	\$3.00	\$3.00	4%	1	4.0%	1	0
Office Depot	4511 N Division	Spokane	3	100	2	\$2.15	\$1.08	2%	2	\$13.32	\$6.66	2%	4	4.0%	1	0
Toys R Us	6104 N Division	Spokane	3	100	3	\$5.99	\$2.00	3%	1	\$2.00	\$2.00	1%	5	5.0%	0	1
Fred Meyer	525 Francis	Spokane	3	100	2	\$9.80	\$4.90	2%	2	\$5.40	\$2.70	2%	4	4.0%	1	0
Shopko	9520 Newport Hwy	Spokane	3	100	2	\$2.29	\$1.15	2%	3	\$12.20	\$4.07	3%	5	5.0%	1	0

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Walmart	2301 W Wellsley	Spokane	3	100	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	1	\$6.97	\$6.97	1%	1	1.0%	1	0
Target	9770 N Newport Hwy	Spokane	3	100	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	4	\$23.13	\$5.78	4%	4	4.0%	1	0
Mervyn's	4740 N Division	Spokane	3	100	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	0	0.0%	1	0
URM Wholesale Grocers	902 E Springfield	Spokane	3	100	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	0	0.0%	1	0
Nordstrom Rack	N 4750 Division	Spokane	3	50	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	0	0.0%	1	0
KB Toys	N 4750 Division	Spokane	3	25	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	0	0.0%	1	0
Sam Goody	N 4750 Division	Spokane	3	25	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	0	0.0%	1	0
Ross Dress for Less	5504 N Division	Spokane	3	50	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	0	0.0%	1	0
Hastings	7706 N Division	Spokane	3	50	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	0	0.0%	1	0
Bon Marche	4770 Division	Spokane	3	100	1	\$5.00	\$5.00	1%	3	\$87.35	\$29.12	3%	4	4.0%	1	0
River Ridge Hardware	2803 West Garland	Spokane	3	100	1	\$0.50	\$0.50	1%	1	\$0.10	\$0.10	1%	2	2.0%	1	0
REI Outdoor Sports	N 1125 Monroe St	Spokane	3	100	1	\$0.20	\$0.20	1%	2	\$19.74	\$9.87	2%	3	3.0%	1	0
Comp USA	808 N Ruby	Spokane	3	30	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	5	\$29.22	\$5.84	17%	5	16.7%	1	0
Ziggy's	E 620 Holland	Spokane	3	50	1	\$6.44	\$6.44	2%	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	1	2.0%	1	0
Kmart	6606 N Division	Spokane	3	100	1	\$0.50	\$0.50	1%	6	\$12.74	\$2.12	6%	6	6.0%	1	0
TOTALS				7,765	98	\$384.27	\$3.92	1.3%	232	\$2,965.75	\$12.78	3.0%	330	4.2%	79	14